

# THE HEIGHTS

CALIFORNIA HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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California Heights Neighborhood news is a bi-monthly publication of the California Heights Neighborhood Association.

All residents are invited to contribute articles and opinions. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and brevity. Opinions expressed are not necessarily shared by all residents nor the editor. Our goal is to provide a voice to our community, keeping residents informed of issues affecting the quality of life in California Heights.

## BIXBY KNOLLS, START YOUR ENGINES



Photo by Steve Brackett

One of the biggest events in Long Beach will be returning to Atlantic Avenue on Saturday, July 28th.

Last year was the first appearance of vintage dragsters and other period Hot Rods in Bixby Knolls. Thousands of enthusiasts and curious on-lookers were treated to the beauty and mystique of these racers from the fifties and sixties.

The cars did more than just look good, some cars actually ran their engines (with driveline disconnected for safety) to recreate what it was like on the start line of a Saturday night at Lion's Drag Strip and other strips across the country.

Don't be square and miss this cool event! For more info, please visit [bixbyknollsinfo.com](http://bixbyknollsinfo.com)

Learn about  
Eco Friendly  
Flooring  
at the next  
CHNA  
Community  
Meeting

Thursday, July 12th  
7:00 p.m.  
Petroleum Club  
3636 Linden Avenue

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Local businesses are part of the fabric of our community. In fact, many proprietors are residents of our neighborhood. Support for local business contributes to the well being of our area since a successful business climate cultivates a more exciting environment where we live, shop and play. The more success they have, the more others will want to join in on that success.

We all play an integral part in this dynamic. As residents, we pine about the lack of diversity in our local shops and dining options, yet many of us are not familiar with our current businesses. Many come and go without our notice.

Over the last few months, First Fridays, spearheaded by California Heights' own Krista Leaders, owner of Chroma Glass Designs, and Keith Lewis from the former Oasis Coffeehouse, has begun to build some serious steam in our sleepy end of town! If you haven't checked it out, why not try a night out on the town? From artists' receptions featuring exciting local painters, sculptors and photographers, to Shakespeare and increasing varieties of music and food, First Fridays has propagated some serious foot traffic that hasn't been seen on Atlantic in decades. It's all just a short walk away.

Get acquainted with our local shops, make new friends and contribute to the cultivation of a more exciting and dynamic Bixby Knolls. First Fridays takes place each First Friday of every month. Visit [www.firstfridayslongbeach.com](http://www.firstfridayslongbeach.com) for an updated list of events, artists and participating local businesses.

Finally, our new ad year has begun, and The Heights welcomes our new advertisers. SpaZina, Launderpet, Juice Plus, Alford's English Gardens and RichCo Outdoor Construction represent new diversity in our sponsorships, while Kevin Poi joins the list of respected local realtors. We hope their ads enhance their success in our neighborhood. Paid ads pay for the production of this newsletter, so we thank all of our advertisers, past and present, for their support.

Please, support your local businesses. There's something in it for all of us!

Thank you and enjoy the summer!

John Royce

CHNA President

## ECO-FRIENDLY FLOORING HIGHLIGHTS JULY COMMUNITY MEETING

Join your neighbors at the July Community Meeting! Cal Height's own Karen Highberger presents "Sustainable Design-Eco Friendly Floor Coverings." Karen provides an overview of floor coverings and their impact on the environment, the background of the various materials, design possibilities and guidelines for purchasing. Karen has been in the interior design field for 31 years, is a Professional Member of IIDA (International Interior Design Association), a Certified Interior Designer in California and owner of her firm since 1989.

The meeting will be held July 12th at our new location at the Petroleum Club Long Beach, 3636 Linden Avenue at 7:00 pm. The presentation will follow community updates.

## NEW CAL HEIGHTS COMMUNITY MEETING LOCATION!

CHNA thanks the Petroleum Club and PC member Albert Guerra for the generous donation of their meeting room as the new location for our Cal Heights Community Meetings. The Petroleum Club, at 3636 Linden Avenue, has been a fixture of Bixby Knolls for decades. Please check the Calendar on the back page or visit [www.calheights.org](http://www.calheights.org) for upcoming dates.

## SUMMER HAPPENINGS

Looking for something to do this summer? Well, we don't have to look far. Wednesday night concerts at Los Cerritos Park, summer activities including garden tours, Mud Mania and unique concerts at Rancho Los Cerritos, Bixby Knolls Business Improvement Association sponsored Street Fair and Dragster Expo and Car Show, and First Fridays activities blossoming on Atlantic Avenue all point to the fun to be had in our own backyard. For more information and schedules, please visit the following sites:

[lbparks.org](http://lbparks.org)

[rancholoscerritos.org](http://rancholoscerritos.org)

[firstfridayslongbeach.com](http://firstfridayslongbeach.com)

[bixbyknollsinfo.com](http://bixbyknollsinfo.com)

## HOW SECURE IS YOUR HOUSE?

According to Long Beach Police North Division Commander Robertson, most burglaries of our homes are crimes of opportunity. Typically unsecured doors and windows provide the way in! Make your home less convenient to enter and lessen the chance of being victimized.

Commander Robertson recommends keeping doors and windows locked when you leave and have a neighbor pick up your papers and mail when you go away. In fact, do not stop your mail delivery, as the Post Office often leaves a tag to let mail carriers know not to deliver! Since most burglars are not looking to confront anyone, leave a small radio or TV on and use a timer with a lamp (with an energy efficient light bulb!) to make it seem like you are at home when you are not.

Barking dogs, bright lights that sense motion and thorny bushes below accessible windows also help deter would be burglars!

## KNOCK, KNOCK. WHO'S THERE?

Solicitors are a fact of life. However, there are a few things you should keep in mind before opening your door or conducting a transaction with someone you are unfamiliar with.

All legitimate sales people should have a business license number or a city permit number. If they are unwilling to give you this information, you should not entertain doing business with them. This number will allow you to check for legitimacy before proceeding with a transaction or agreement for products or services.

Gaining access to your home may give up personal information about your property, possessions and personal activities. Thus, even assuming legitimacy and reasonable trust has been established, please use the greatest caution before inviting someone in, especially if you are home alone. Certainly do not share your schedule or allow someone to tour your home.

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## Home Tour Docents Needed!

We are getting ready for the 2007 Cal Heights Home Tour!

Each year the California Heights Neighborhood Association hosts an annual home and garden tour. It's success depends upon you! It takes 100 plus volunteers to make this event happen. While volunteers assist with a variety of tasks, the majority are needed as docents on the day of the tour. Our biggest challenge is having enough docent volunteers. We could use your help -- it requires only two and a half hours of your time!

What does a docent do?

Volunteering as a docent is not a complicated task. A docent is assigned to a specific location in a home or a garden. Each docent acts as a guide in their assigned area using a script describing the architectural features of the home. Four to five docents are placed in each home depending upon its size. Each shift lasts for two and a half hours. A docent works one shift.

Maybe being a docent is not for you. Volunteers are also needed to help at the box lunch table, docent check-in table and other tasks.

Why should you volunteer?

**Personal fulfillment from being involved in your neighborhood**

**The opportunity to learn more about your neighborhood**

**A chance to meet and socialize with your neighbors**

**Home and Garden Tour volunteers tour the homes for FREE**

**Being a docent is fun**

Volunteer a few hours of your time and support your neighborhood, the California Heights Neighborhood Association and the Annual Home and Garden Tour.

The home and garden tour is scheduled for Sunday, October 21, 2007 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Two docent shifts are available 11:00-1:30 and 1:30-4:00. If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please call Kathy Costantino at 562-981-3671 or e-mail Kathy at [calheightshometour@earthlink.net](mailto:calheightshometour@earthlink.net).

We look forward to hearing from you!



## Cal Heights Home Owners! Home Tour 2007

Once again it is the time of year when the Cal Heights Home & Garden Tour committee looks to the community for homes and gardens for the annual home tour. Scheduled for Sunday, October 21, 2007 we expect our 11<sup>th</sup> annual tour to be another great success!

If your home has original detail, has undergone a sensitive restoration or has unique features we want to hear from you.

If you would like to have your home or garden considered, either email [calheights@earthlink.net](mailto:calheights@earthlink.net) or call Kathryn Costantino at 562-981-3671.

Let's make 2007 the most successful home tour yet!

*Kathryn Costantino*

*\*CHNA is a nonprofit preservation organization working to protect and preserve historic and architectural resources in the California Heights Historic District.*

## BE IN THE KNOW ABOUT BIXBY KNOLLS!

Sign up for *Banter*, a free monthly e-newsletter filled with information about Bixby Knolls happenings, including seminars, openings, performances and other events.

To sign up, visit [www.bixbyknollsinfo.com](http://www.bixbyknollsinfo.com) and click on "Newsletter." Enter your e-mail address in the space provided. Or, email [susan@bixbyknollsinfo.com](mailto:susan@bixbyknollsinfo.com) and ask to be added to the subscriber list.

**Plan to Attend Our Next  
Community Meeting  
7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, July 12th  
at  
The Petroleum Club  
3636 Linden Avenue**



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Avenue in  
Signal Hill  
(Just opposite the  
BMW dealership)

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## MORE RECYCLING ADDED

Did you know that the City of Long Beach has expanded its recycling collection to include plastics numbered 5 through 7? Now you can pretty much put all of your plastic packaging and containers in your recycle bin. This is great news! It allows us to recycle many of the most common plastic containers used for packaging food, including those clear to-go containers from your favorite restaurant, reducing further what we toss into our garbage cans.

The main exception is Styrofoam. It is still not accepted – just one more good reason to reject the use of this form of plastic. Ask your local businesses to switch to alternatives wherever possible.

Wondering about paper or plastic? It's easier than ever to dismiss them both with the multitude of reusable bags offered by grocers at nominal cost. Imagine the trees we can save and how about a windy day or a drive along the freeway without the little white parachutes marring the scene.

## CONSERVING WATER

California has now set a record for the lowest annual rainfall in recorded history. It is now time to think about water conservation. Los Angeles has already asked residents to conserve 10%.

- Take shorter showers.
- Use a broom to sweep driveways.
- Repair leaky faucets.
- Run only full load of laundry or dishes.
- Wash car less often.
- Use a Car Wash that recycles water.
- Pour unused water glasses onto plants.
- Water your lawn less. Watering every 2-3 day is usually sufficient.
- Adjust sprinkler to reduce over spray and over watering.
- Water in the morning when less wind blows more water away, and higher afternoon temperatures evaporate more water.

## MOVIES IN THE PARK

This is great, free entertainment for the kids..and adults. There is nothing better than enjoying the cool night air in Long Beach, so plan on attending a few of the screenings.

Here the schedule of Movies in the Park for this summer. Movies in the Park is sponsored by Signal Hill Petroleum. All movies begin at dusk. Bring your own blanket and/or folding chair.

**Week 2-Charlotte's Web**

Friday June 29th, Signal Hill

**Week 3-Over the Hedge**

Monday July 2nd, Bixby Park

Friday July 6th, Silverado Park

**Week 4-Open Season**

Monday July 9th, Scherer Park

Wednesday July 11th, Recreation Park

Friday July 13th, Wardlow Park

**Week 5-Daddy Day Care**

Monday July 16th, Somerset Park

Wednesday July 18th, Ramona Park

Friday July 20th, Vets Park

**Week 6-E.T.**

Monday July 23rd, Signal Hill Park

Wednesday July 25th, Whaley Park

Friday July 27th, Bixby Park

**Week 7-Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**

Monday July 30th, CEP

Wednesday August 1st, Drake Park

Friday August 3rd, Heartwell Park

**Week 8-Ant Bully**

Monday August 6th, Cherry Park

Wednesday August 8th, 14th Street Park

Friday August 10th, Scherer Park

**Week 9-Akeelah and the Bee**

Monday August 13th, Orizaba Park

Wednesday August 15th, Coolidge Park

Friday August 17th, King Park

**Week 10-Barnyard**

Monday August 20th, DeForest Park

Wednesday August 22nd, Admiral Kidd Park

Friday August 10th, Chavez Park

**Week 11-The Wizard of Oz**

Monday August 27th, Los Cerritos Park

Wednesday August 29th, El Dorado Park

**Week 11-Cars**

Friday August 31st, Bixby Park

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**Cal Heights Curb Painting will be making the rounds in the neighborhood over the next two months.**  
 Visit [calheights.org](http://calheights.org) for details.

## Congratulations to Delius Restaurant!



One of our longtime neighborhood supporters, Delius Restaurant is moving. While we are sad to see them go, they pledge to remain active. We wish them much success at their new location and fabulous digs on Cherry Avenue in Signal Hill.

Speaking of Delius, proprietors Dave and Louise have organized an Alaska Cruise in September, complete with wine tastings and cooking lessons. There are still a few spots available. For more information, call 426-9130.

## Bembridge House Renews Its Views

The historic Bembridge House has beautifully restored windows, thanks to careful work done by Window Restoration and Repair. Owners Ed and Scott, members of Long Beach Heritage, paid special attention to this Drake Park beauty, both to make the most of the limited budget and give the historic treasure a new lease on life. Now the rain won't leak in and the damp musties can escape! For tours, donations and volunteer opportunities, call 493-7019.

## GARDEN TOURS AT THE RANCHO

**First Sundays, May through October**

**FREE Admission. Reservations Recommended**

Rancho Los Cerritos - Garden Tours at our local historic treasure! Trees here date to the 1840s! First Sundays at 2:30 pm, May - October. Reserve your free guided tour at 570-1755.



## CAL HEIGHTS CURB PAINTING



With great summer weather, this is the perfect time for the Cal Heights Neighborhood Association to re-paint street numbers. A few years ago Cal Heights resident Steve Ortiz conceived, launched, and executed the **Cal Heights Curb Painting Project**. Many residents have ordered the painting and their curbs look great. If you're waiting for yours to be done, don't worry, we have CHNA volunteers to fill your orders. Curbs will be painted white with black numbers and CH lamp post. If you would like your curb painted, please fill out this form and send with a \$15.00 check to:

CHNA / Curb Painting  
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**SAVE THE DATE**  
 Cal Heights Home & Garden Tour  
 Sunday, October 21, 2007

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address (house 1) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (house 2) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ check included (\$15, \$30, \$45)  
 If you would like your curb painted, please fill out this form and send with a check to:

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## WEDNESDAYS

**Concert in the Park, Los Cerritos Park, Wednesday Nights,**  
6:30 p.m., June 27th through August 15th, [lbparks.com](http://lbparks.com)

## JULY

**3rd Four Olives Café Artist's Reception, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**  
Doug Orr's own acrylic works will be on display. Light appetizers and refreshments will be served.

**12th Bi-Monthly CHNA Meeting, 7:00 pm,**  
**Topic: Eco Friendly Flooring**  
The Petroleum Club, 3636 Linden Avenue,  
(Near corner of Linden Avenue & 37th Street)

**28th Dragster Expo and Car Show, 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm,**  
Atlantic Ave. between Carson and San Antonio, for more  
info visit [www.bixbyknollsinfo.com](http://www.bixbyknollsinfo.com)

## MAY through OCTOBER

**Garden Tours at the Rancho, Rancho Los Cerritos**  
Garden Tours at our local historic treasure!  
Trees here date to the 1840s!  
**First Sundays** at 2:30 pm, May - October.  
Reserve your free guided tour at 570-1755.

## OCTOBER

**21st SAVE THE DATE Cal Heights Home & Garden Tour**

### Get involved in the community

If you would like to include information for future newsletters,  
please forward articles, photos or suggestions to  
[calheightsnews@aol.com](mailto:calheightsnews@aol.com) by the following dates.  
Thank you to all that have responded.

### Flyer Distribution

August 18  
September 22  
November 17

### Deadline for Articles, etc.

August 4  
September 8  
November 3

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# IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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Police North Substation (Non-Emergency)  
**570-5891**

Fire Department  
**570-2500**

California Heights Neighborhood Assoc.  
**424-6727**

California Heights ReLeaf  
**997-9094**

Dana Branch Library  
**570-1042**

Rancho Los Cerritos  
**570-1755**

Long Beach Building Department  
**570-6651**

Long Beach Animal Control  
**570-PETS (7387)**

Airport Noise  
**570-2665 / 570-2600**

Graffiti Paint-Out  
**570-2773**

Garage Sale Hotline  
**570-YARD (9273)**

Noise Control  
**570-4126 (press 4)**

Parkway Tree Trimming/Removal  
**570-2755**

Shopping Cart Retrieval  
**570-2876**

Street Potholes  
**570-3259**

Tonia Reyes-Uranga  
7th District Councilmember  
**570-6139**  
[district7@longbeach.gov](mailto:district7@longbeach.gov)

Rae Gabelich  
8th District Councilmember  
**570-1326**  
[district8@longbeach.gov](mailto:district8@longbeach.gov)

Jan Ostashay  
Neighborhood Preservation Officer  
**570-6864**

City of Long Beach Website  
[www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov)

Long Beach Recycles Website  
[www.longbeach-recycles.org](http://www.longbeach-recycles.org)

Long Beach Unified School District  
[www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/index.asp](http://www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/index.asp)

Official CHNA Website  
[www.calheights.org](http://www.calheights.org)